

**ACTIVITY IN MINES.**

**E. Sanderson Smith Tells Spokane of This District.**

E. Sanderson Smith, of Sumpter, Oregon, is in the city. Mr. Smith says that the activity among the mines in that section can hardly be over estimated. Not only scores but hundreds of properties are holding their projected development, waiting to see what the deeper working on the larger properties will demonstrate. This is particularly true along the line of the Columbia, Golconda, Anna Lulu and Bunker Hill mines, all of which work to tap the leads at depth is in progress.

Mr. Smith says that nowhere before has he ever seen a mining camp where the practical and scientific processes of ore treatment was more successful in saving the free gold values. On the properties which are properly equipped, from 85 to 87 per cent of the values are saved by milling and amalgamation, and in the concentrates, which are treated by the cyanide process. The ore of what is known as the great slate belt is practically free milling, the formation being very similar with that of the great Mother Lode of California, and in his estimation there is no reason why the veins should not prove equally lasting and rich. The North Pole has already been proven to the 1000 foot level with values holding good at that depth, and if the vein goes down on that property there is no reason in the world why it should not on the others in the same belt.

It is not only the high values in the mines which are being opened up in that section, but also the size of the veins, and the extent of the deposit, which, in Mr. Smith's estimation, indicate that a few years development will place that camp among the foremost gold producers of the world. None of the mines, even the largest, are yet being worked to their full capacity. The North Pole, Columbia and Red Boy, could as well, he says, be running 60 stamps as the 10 or 20 which they are.

The various mines along what is known as the slate belt are now crushing in the neighborhood of 300 tons per day, and development is in progress, that within sixty days they will be crushing 300 tons per day more, things are moving rapidly down there. Capital is coming into Sumpter for investment from all parts of the country. Montana mining men are looking for investments there, with keen sighted iron men from Duluth and Pittsburgh, in fact all parts of the country are represented by investors or experts investigating properties, while a large amount of English and Canadian capital have already taken up holdings.—Spokane Stock Report.

**Our Ores to be Exhibited in Portland.**

V. A. Schilling, city passenger and ticket agent of the O. R. & N. at Portland, is making a collection of ores from eastern Oregon mines which he will place on exhibition in his office, which collection he says, will eclipse anything of the kind in the Northwest. He already has the promise of a large number of specimens from the Golconda, Bonanza, Red Boy, North Pole, Columbia, Free Coinage, Magnolia, May Queen, Little Giant, Van Anda, Intrinsic, Comstock and other famous mines of the Sumpter district gold fields.

**Zeth Houser's Rich Mine.**

United States Marshal Houser returned some days since from the Dixie Butte country, where he had been in company with J. F. Bacheider, a mining man from Portland. Mr. Houser states that his company has arranged for extensive development of the property. The Copper

King, which is in the Quartzburg district, is one of the oldest mines in eastern Oregon, and one of the earliest upon which any deep mining was attempted. The development so far consists of about 800 feet of tunnels, shafts and crosscuts. The ore from the present depth, 170 feet, averages fourteen per cent copper and fifty dollars in gold. Early in the spring a reduction plant will be erected at the mine. The company is composed principally of Pendleton people.

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